



PRESS RELEASE

Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure

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New President & CEO Of Amtrak To Testify At Congressional Hearing

Washington, D.C. – The new President and Chief Executive Officer of Amtrak will appear before a Congressional panel on Thursday to outline his plans and management strategy for the passenger rail system.

Alexander Kummant, who assumed his new duties with Amtrak on September 12, 2006, is the only scheduled witness for the hearing.

The hearing by the **U.S. House Subcommittee on Railroads**, chaired by **U.S. Rep. Steven LaTourette (R-OH)**, is scheduled to begin at **10 a.m. on Thursday, September 28th in 2167 Rayburn House Office Building**. A live webcast of the hearing will be available at the Committee's website: www.house.gov/transportation.

Background Information

Amtrak's previous CEO, David Gunn, was fired by the Amtrak board in the fall of 2005. (The Subcommittee held a hearing shortly afterward on Amtrak governance issues.) While a search for a successor was conducted, David Hughes, then head of the Amtrak engineering department, was appointed acting CEO. Amtrak's new president, Alexander Kummant, was selected by the Amtrak board in early September 2006 and began work on September 12.

In early 1998, Mr. Kummant was president of the Sweco Division of Emerson Electric Company. From February 1998 to September 1999, he was president of the Filtran Division of SPX Corporation. From September 1999 to early 2003, he was a vice president in charge of the central division of the Union Pacific Railroad. After leaving Union Pacific in mid-2003, he became president of Bomag, a German manufacturer of compacting equipment. In April 2005, Mr. Kummant became executive vice president of Komatsu. In May 2006, Mr. Kummant became vice president and general manager of Invensys Controls in charge of American business.

Amtrak, a District of Columbia business corporation, is governed by a presidentially appointed board of directors. The president of Amtrak is a nonvoting *ex officio* member of the board of directors. The Amtrak president, like other corporate officers, "serves at the pleasure of the Board" and must be a citizen of the United States.

**For additional information, access the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee website at:
www.house.gov/transportation**

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